

Happy Birthday!

- 17 Brooke Erwin
Taylor Heidebrink
- 20 Nancy Flinck
Dane Jeppesen
Andrew Johnson
Kelly Maras
- 22 Amy Molter

Happy Anniversary!

- 22 Dick & Denise Schlichte

Church Family Prayer List

Each week throughout the year, we pray intentionally for families from all of our churches - please include these families in your prayer life this week.

Timothy & Kristine Tripp & Family
Tom & Diane Vagt
Dale & Mary Van Hosen
Steffen & Ida Van Westen
Bruce Vortherms & Michelle Bulau & Family
Leola Weets
Rick & Kathy Wegner
Ben & Marlene Wieneke
Katherine Willey
Justin Williams
Shellie Williams & Family
Julie Winselman & Family
Timothy & Thelma Yager & Family

Let's remember to visit those who are in Care Centers or are homebound: especially reach out to:

Jenola Uden Betty Taarud,
Lois Carlberg Norma Carlberg
Margaret Loger Mary Prins
LaDee Grant
Ron & Karen Lawrence.

One visit goes a long way!



PRAYER CORNER

Prayers for immediate health concerns:

Clyde Scheevel Janelle Johnson
Mary Prins (dealing with arthritis)
Tim Yager LaDee Grant
Marlene Wieneke Ajulo Ochala
Jean Blanshan (Virgyl Buck's niece dealing with the last stage of cancer)

Persons impacted by COVID 19:
COVID long-haulers

Prayers for those dealing with cancer:

Laurie Blume Scott Klooster
Christopher Allen Brown
John Kellen (Burdell Kuhl's friend)

Persons recovering/dealing with health issues:

Emma Schnyders Nancy Hyink
Gerald Fisher Mike Miller
Kristi Johnson John Clease
Weston Erlandson Bill Carlberg
Steve Timmons Ariana Lopez
Ken Bipes Phil Glembin
Aiden Remme Pat Huisenga

For peace in Israel and the surrounding areas
which are dealing with armed conflict...

For those dealing with grief and loss...

Giving thanks & praying for:

Our Bishop and District Superintendent...
Our teachers, administrators, students...
Front line health care workers...
Law enforcement & emergency workers...
Service women & men and their families...

If you have a loved one you would like to have added to the Prayer Corner list, or if any name needs to be removed from this list, please contact the church office:

507.372.2939
methodistoffice@gmail.com

God loves you!



Sunday, December 17th, 2023
Worship - 10:30 a.m.



livestream links

The Boxcast TV Channel

First UMC YouTube Channel

First UMC FaceBook Channel

First UMC Website

(<http://firstumcworthington.com/>)

PASTOR:

Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:

Lori Nienkerk

FAMILY LIFE:

Gretchen O'Donnell

CUSTODIANS:

Sarah & Chad Nickel

GREETERS:

Steve & Anita Leech

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST:

Jolene Kuhl

CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Jeanette Jensen

CHOIR ACCOMPANIST:

Brenda DeSmith

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Brenda DeSmith

TECH TEAM:

Rick Dalrymple & Sadie Nickel

408 11th Street - Worthington, MN 56187 - 507.372.2939

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS - Monday through Friday - 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

♦ Office Phone >> 507.372.2939

♦ Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck >> dfinck@gmail.com

♦ Office email >> methodistoffice@gmail.com


3rd Sunday of Advent



Sunday, December 17th, 2023
10:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Rev. Dr. Daren Flinck
Accompanist: Jolene Kuhl

UMH - United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS - The Faith We Sing

 Please stand as you are able

PRELUDE

PRAISE

"Angels We Have Heard On High"

First UMC Bell Choir Ensemble

Jill Spiegelhoff, Sherry & Galen Benton, Pastor Daren Flinck, Michelle Ebbers
Directed and Accompanied by Brenda DeSmith

WELCOME - ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Come to Worship God

PRAISE

(verse three only)

TFWS #2090 - *"Light the Advent Candle"*

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

Blessing upon blessing has been showered upon us by God.
The lame shall walk; the blind shall see; the deaf shall hear.

There will be peace and hope in God's land.

Be of good courage.

Behold! God is blessing and redeeming us!

Today we light three candles. The first is the candle of Patience

It reminds us to watch and wait for what God is about to do.

The second candle is the candle of Readiness,
enabling us to look at our lives.

**We desire to get rid of all those things that keep us from God,
to change our ways and live as God would have us live.**

The third candle is the candle of Faith,
through which we behold the love and mercy of God.

Fireside Book Club

Our next book is *Unorthodox*, by Deborah Feldman. This is the memoir of a woman growing up in an Hasidic Jewish community who then fought to break free of that world. We will discuss the book on Tuesday, January 23, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Pick up the book on your own and come ready to discuss this eye-opening story.

Confirmation Class



The Confirmation Class is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, December 26th at First UMC starting at 10:00 a.m.. The class will rotate between locations (First to Adrian) each month until Confirmation Sunday, April 28th, 2024.



Card of Thanks

I'd like to thank the church for their prayers, the beautiful flowers,
and the cake and coffee cup from the Night Lights Circle.

LaDee Grant

 	Last Week's Offering	\$ 2,580.00
	Carry Over Revenue (2022):	\$ 31,543.00
	Revenue Year to Date:	\$ 315,290.57
	Expenses Year to Date:	\$ 325,729.56
Thank you for your faithful giving!		

Worship Attendance	Last Sunday	LIVE STREAM VIEWS	206
ADRIAN UMC	23	CRISTO EN TU AYUDA	20
FIRST UMC	76	TOTAL	325

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services:

First UMC 5:30 p.m. Adrian UMC 9:00 p.m.

Normal Sunday worship services in both churches will be held on Sunday, December 24th at the normal times.

Greeters Needed

WANTED: we need greeters for the 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve evening service (Sunday, December 24th) and for Sunday, December 31st. if you would be available and willing to help, please contact the church office (507.372.2939) or call Pat Grimmus (507.360.1400). Thank You!

- Pat G

C3-Christians Connecting at Church

Join us for C3! C3 is the new name for our Wednesday evening meals and activities. C3 stands for "Christians Connecting at Church" and it is our hope that you choose to connect with us there each week for a meal and, twice a month, an activity. There will be NO meal Wednesday, December 20th.

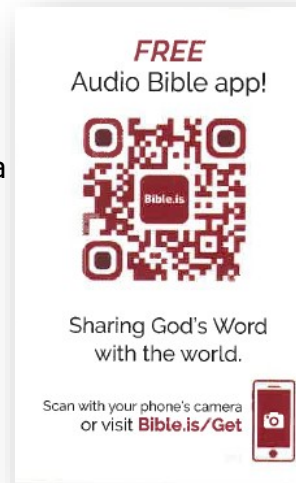
Youth Event

Stay tuned for a special youth event on January 5, 2024! More details to follow.

Faith Comes by Hearing - Through the Bible in One Year

The Family Life Team at First Church is excited to present the opportunity for you and your family at Adrian UMC to read through the Bible in one year! Starting January 1st, we will be listening and reading through the Bible by using various methods. With the Faith Comes by Hearing app, Bible Is (which is no cost) you can follow along with a scheduled reading and listening plan to hear the Bible in one year. If you do not have a smartphone you can access this resource on the Faith Comes by Hearing website. If you do not have access to a computer, you can order a listening device which has entire Old and New Testaments recorded for your listening pleasure.

If this is something you have done in the past, it's always good to renew your understanding of Scripture. If this is something you have always wanted to do but just couldn't find the time, perhaps now is that time! Join us in the Fellowship Hall at First UMC on Thursday, December 21st at 1:30 p.m. to hear more about how you can participate in Faith Comes By Hearing!



We believe in God's presence with us.

Come, rejoice in the lights, God is with us!

✚ PRAISE

UMH #196 - *"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"*

✚ OPENING PRAYER ²

O Lord, you know the deserts and the parched places in our lives. We seek your healing power. Lead us on this Advent journey to the place of new birth and to the place of our redemption; for we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

MOMENTS WITH THE YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAISE

"Prepare the Way O Zion"

Congas: Emma Hietbrink ** Claves: Joy Knuckles

"Celebrate the Child"

First UMC Chancel Choir

Directed by Jeanette Jenson - accompanied by Brenda DeSmith

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE - THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAISE

"Carol of the Bells"

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

First UMC Bell Choir - directed by Brenda DeSmith

We Hear God's Word

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 1:6-8, 19-28

MESSAGE

"The Games We Play"

We Respond to God's Word

PRAISE

"Christmas Sanctus"

First UMC Chancel Choir

Solos by Elizabeth Bushard & Pastor Daren Flinck

Directed by Jeanette Jenson - accompanied by Brenda DeSmith

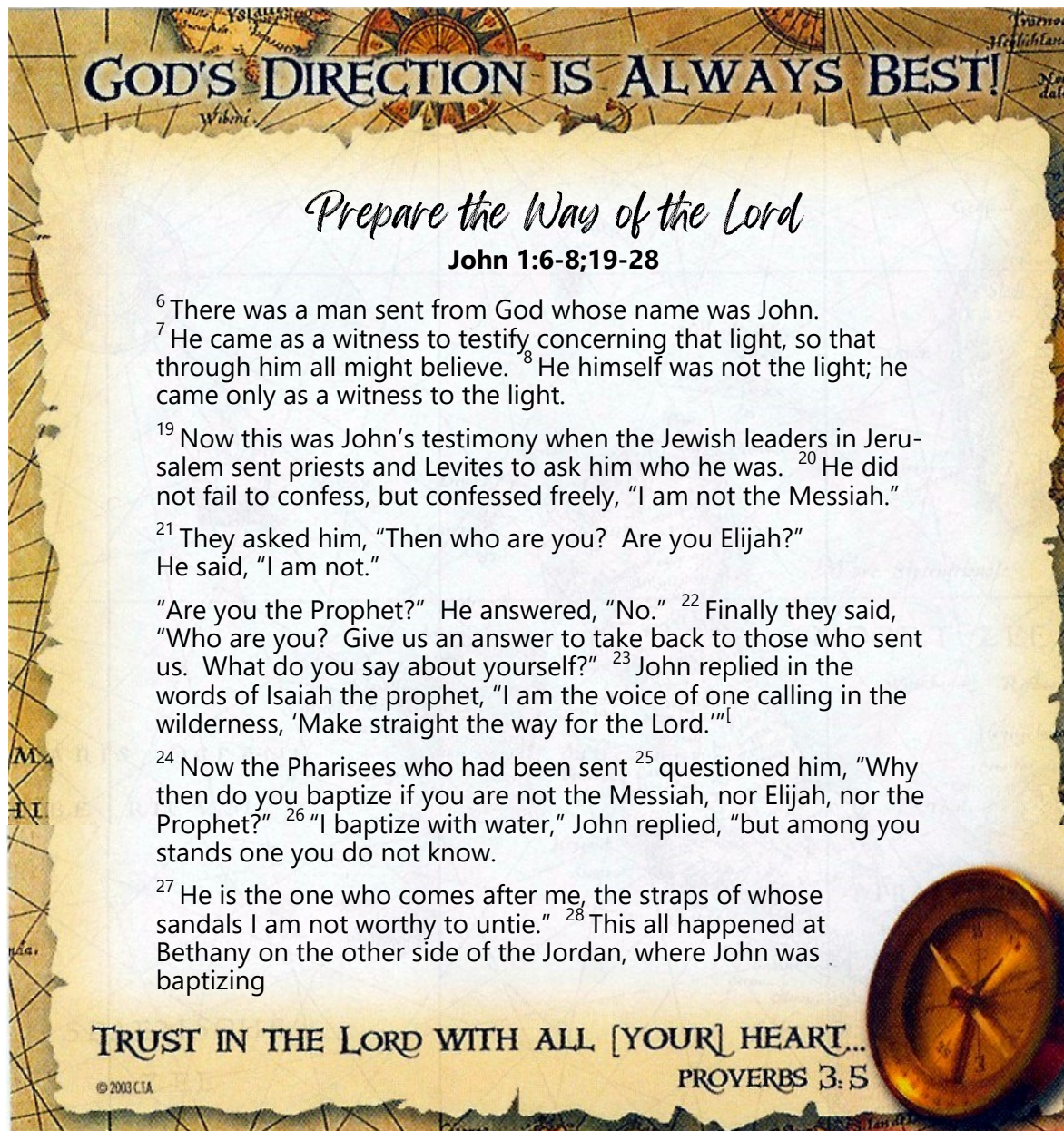
We Go Forth to Serve God

✚ PRAISE

UMH #240 - *"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"*

✚ THE BENEDICTION - ✚ POSTLUDE





Souper Bowl Soup Cook-off

Mark your calendar! The Missions Team will be holding the annual Souper Bowl Soup Cook-off on Sunday, January 28th. We will be looking for participants to serve a soup along with taste testers. Watch for more details coming in January!

Care Center Residents:

First UMC:

The Veteran's Home (Luverne)
Ron Lawrence

The Meadows Memory Care Unit
Karen Lawrence

South Shore Care Center
Lois Carlberg LaDee Grant

Adrian UMC:

Mary Jane Brown Ctr (Luverne)
Mary Prins

Adrian Country Living Cottage
Margaret Loger

Live Streaming...

You can catch our live stream broadcast on your smartphone, iPad, Smart TV or computer at on any one of four different app channels or online websites:

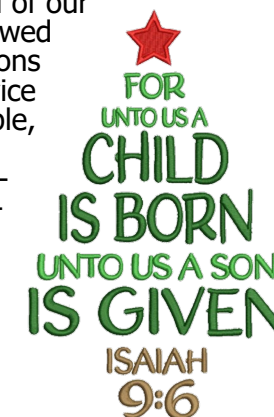
[The Boxcast TV Channel](#)

[First UMC Website](#)

[First UMC YouTube Channel](#)

[First UMC FaceBook](#)

Please note that all of our services can be viewed at the above locations even after the service is over. For example, the live stream library on our Face-book page has services from several years ago. For questions about our broadcasts, please contact the church office.



This Week

SUN

6:30 am
9:00 am
9:00 am
9:45 am
10:30 am
1:00 pm
1:00 pm

Dec 17

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Worship @ Adrian
Sunday School
Coffee Fellowship
Worship @ First
Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
Christmas Caroling @ First

MON

9:00 am
3:00 pm
7:00 pm

Dec 18

Ladies Advent Bible Study
Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Adrian Council (Zoom)

TUES

9:30 am
5:00 pm
3:00 pm

Dec 19

Ladies' Coffee @ Hy-Ve
PSPRC Meeting (Zoom)
Worship Re-Broadcast on TV

WED

7:00 am
4:00 pm

Dec 20

Men's Breakfast @ Blue Line
KFC (First Lutheran)
NO C3 Meal
NO Bell Choir Practice
NO G1 @ Adrian UMC
NO Chancel Choir Practice

THURS

1:30 pm
5:30 pm

Dec 21

Faith Comes by Hearing
First UMC Fellowship Hall
First Council Meeting (HR)

SUN

6:30 am
9:00 am
9:00 am
9:45 am
10:30 am
1:00 pm
5:30 pm
9:00 pm

Dec 24

Worship Re-Broadcast on TV3
Worship @ Adrian
NO Sunday School @ First
NO Coffee Fellowship @ First
Worship @First
Cristo En Tu Ayuda @ First
Candlelight Service @First
Candlelight Service @ Adrian